[31st July 1933

Appointment of Commissioners to Municipalities.

*9 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Commissioners have been appointed to some municipalities as has been enacted recently;

(*b*) if so, to which of the municipalities such appointments have been made; and

(*c*) who has been appointed to each municipality and what previous appointment has he held?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] is appended.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether the Government propose to appoint commissioners for any municipalities not included in this list? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I take it the hon. Member means the list given as appendix to the answer. Proposals to appoint commissioners for Negapatam and Dindigul municipalities are under consideration."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether in respect of Negapatam, the Government have received any resolution passed by the municipal council of Negapatam, asking for the appointment of a commissioner? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether the hon. Minister means that the Negapatam municipality passed a resolution asking the Government to appoint a commissioner? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" As far as I can remember, that is what I think."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that all that the Negapatam municipality wanted was that they should be helped with the services of a special officer to enable them to collect the long-standing arrears in their revenues? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I am not aware of that. But I expect the commissioner will help them in collecting their revenues."

Reconstitution of taluk boards on the lines which existed prior to their bifurcation.

*10 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for reamalgamating taluks for taluk boards as they originally were before they were bifurcated;

(*b*) if so, what those specific proposals are and when they may come into being; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 47 infra.

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(c) whether it is a fact that after the bifurcation, work and expenditure have considerably increased but the efficiency and progress have considerably declined?

A.—(a) & (b) No such proposal is under consideration.

(c) The bifurcation has to some extent accentuated the financial difficulties under which some of the old taluk boards were labouring and instances have come to the notice of the Government, in which the new taluk boards were unable to meet their liabilities for want of funds. The Government have however no reason to suppose that any considerable decline in efficiency has taken place as a result of the bifurcation.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether any definite proposals are before the Government in regard to these questions?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"As stated in the answer, various proposals are under consideration. Under the policy of the new Act the taluk boards have been bifurcated after three years' trouble and expense. It is not possible without giving it a trial to immediately think of far-reaching changes."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"In answer to (a) and (b), it is stated no such proposal is under consideration. May I know from the hon. the Chief Minister whether in the Kistna district he has stopped the elections in respect of certain taluk boards and if so, on what grounds?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Most of the taluk boards which have been bifurcated are not financially self-supporting. For that reason no further bifurcation was considered desirable."

Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"Is the Government aware that by the multiplication of these taluk boards the difficulties of the financial situation are becoming aggravated?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Yes."

Mr. T. C. Srinivsa Ayyangar:—"How many of these taluk boards are self-supporting?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Majority."

Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"Are the majority self-supporting or not self-supporting?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I believe, Sir, the majority are self-supporting."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Sir, the printed answer says that there is no such proposal under consideration, viz., amalgamation of certain taluk boards. But the Minister says that Government have considered the question and have stopped election in respect of certain taluk boards. Which answer is correct?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The other proposals with regard to the whole question are under consideration."